



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
7202.4-OS-2019-00333

June 6, 2019

Via email: [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Katherine Anthony  
1035 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Anthony:

On January 3, 2019, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) seeking the following:

All records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, voicemails, voicemail transcripts, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, WhatsApp, Facebook messaging, Twitter Direct Messages, or Signal), telephone call logs, calendar invitations, calendar entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between or among Acting Secretary Bernhardt—or anyone communicating on his behalf—and anyone representing or employed by the Trump Organization or its affiliates (including anyone communicating from an email address ending with @trumporg.com, @trump.com, @trumphotels.com, @ijkfamily.com).

Please provide all responsive records from December 15, 2018, through the date the search is conducted.

On January 22, 2019, we acknowledged your request and advised you of your fee status under the FOIA. We are writing to respond to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. After a search reasonably calculated to uncover all relevant documents, it has been determined that the Office of the Secretary has no records responsive to your request.

Clarice Julka, Office of the Secretary, FOIA Officer, is responsible for this denial.

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays**. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

**Your appeal must be made in writing.** You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the Office of the Secretary's response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request including your original FOIA request and Office of the Secretary's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS-6556 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240  
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office  
Telephone: (202) 208-5339  
Fax: (202) 208-6677  
Email: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. *See* [5 U.S.C. 552\(c\)](#). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist."

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

If you have any questions regarding any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may contact Cindy Sweeney by phone at 202-513-0765, by fax at 202-219-2374, by e-mail at [os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov), or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St, NW, MS-7328 MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Clarice Julka.

Sincerely,

**CLARICE JULKA** Digitally signed by CLARICE JULKA  
Date: 2019.06.06 14:38:46 -04'00'

Clarice Julka  
Office of the Secretary  
FOIA Officer